Organ trade

513. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Organ trade angle in 17 year old's murder", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 22nd October, 2002;

(b) whether it is a fact that organ trade is flourishing in and around Ghaziabad District and racketeers often trap people;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the steps being taken to check the organ trade throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 confers authority on the Central Government/State Governments concerned to appoint by a notification one or more officers as Appropriate Authorities for the purposes of the Act with powers to grant registration to hospitals for removal, storage or transplantation of any human organ, to suspend or cancel such registration, to enforce such standards as may be prescribed, to investigate any complaint of breach of any provision of the said Act or any Rules made there under and inspect hospitals periodically. Provisions exist under sections 18 to 21 of the said Act to discourage trading in human organs.

Development of ROSNI

514. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new technique for curbing infertility among couples named ROSNI (Round Spermatid Nuclear Injection) has been developed, in the field of Test Tube Baby Technique and Artificial Reproductive Technology at the Jaipur Fertility and Microsurgery Research Centre;

(b) if so, the details of the technique and how far it has tested to be successful; and

(c) the steps being taken to promote the technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) "ROSNI" or Round Spermatid Nuclear Injection Technique is a new technique in the field of test tube baby and this artificial reproductive technology has been developed at Jaipur Fertility and Microsurgery Research Centre. ROSNI offers alternative solutions for men with non-obstructive azoosoermia and testicular foci of spermatogenesis up to round spermatid stage. In this technique, the eggs are retrieved from female partner, after ovulation induction under transvaginal sonography guidance, like any routine In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) procedure. At the same time, testicular issue is taken from husband and round spermatids (haploid) nuclei are extracted from it and injected directly in to the oocytes like intracytoplamic sperm injection (ICSI) technique. The fertilized egg or embryo is transferred back to uterus on day 3 of retrieval. Confirmation of pregnancy is done by blood test (S. BhCG) after 15 days.

However, the fertilization rate as well as pregnancy rate (about 5%) using round spermatids is far less than that reported by conventional "Test Tube Baby Technique". Moreover, the safety of using round spermatozoa in this technique is still being debated. Some reports suggest that the spermatids (recovered from patients with complete spermiogenesis failure) are often deficient in the factor(s) responsible for oocyte activation which could result in abnormal fertilization and the impairment of preimplantation and post-implantation development of foetus. Besides this, there are other reports which have also expressed concern about the possible health hazards for children resulting from the use of spermatids for assisted reproduction.

The first report of success by this procedure came in 1995 (Tesarik et al, 1995 Tesarik & Mendoza, 1996). However, this technique has not been universally accepted and certain countries have banned this technique, *e.g.* U.K.

In the light of the available data, it is essential to go slow in using the technique ROSNI to treat infertility.

NGOs in the management of PHCs

515. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: